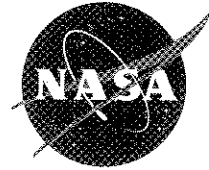


National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Headquarters  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



May 4, 2010

Reply to Attn of: Office of the Chief Technologist

TO: Distribution

FROM: Chief Technologist

SUBJECT: The Space Technology Research Fellowship Program

We would like to make you aware of and enlist your assistance in a new and exciting opportunity for our nation's brightest science, technology, engineering and mathematics graduate students.

In Fiscal Year 2011, the Office of the Chief Technologist is planning to sponsor U.S. citizen graduate student research that shows significant promise for future application toward NASA's strategic goals and missions. Competitively selected candidates will perform graduate student research on their respective campuses, at NASA Centers and at not-for-profit Research and Development (R&D) labs. In addition to his or her academic advisor, we plan to match each student with a technically relevant and community engaged researcher at a NASA Center or not-for-profit R&D lab who will serve as the student's professional advisor.

Innovative projects with high risk/high payoff will be encouraged. We would like your assistance in suggesting and briefly describing research areas that would be of interest to your institution. Please limit these descriptions to a few sentences per research area. The topics submitted will be considered as we formulate our initial call. We are looking for space technology topics that address a NASA or national need and which are appropriate for graduate student research. We are asking that you limit the number of topic submissions to 10 (per institution). We request your inputs no later than May 21. The enclosed template has been developed to promote consistency and to facilitate integration. Topics can be reasonably broad; descriptions should focus on your institution's technical strengths. Please submit your inputs or questions regarding this planned fellowship activity to Claudia Meyer at [Claudia.M.Meyer@nasa.gov](mailto:Claudia.M.Meyer@nasa.gov). NASA Centers should submit responses through their Center's Innovative Partnerships Program (IPP) Office representatives; these inputs should be coordinated with existing Center Chief Technologists.

We're asking for your assistance in providing areas of interest up front since we understand that the planned mentoring and on-Center/lab research experiences will place responsibilities upon the NASA Centers and R&D labs; your inputs will help ensure that the fellowships are beneficial to both the students and the space technology community at the Centers and labs. Please note that we plan to work with you to foster an identity for the selected graduate

students beyond any one particular Center or lab. The Space Technology Research Fellowship Program is planning to feature dedicated sessions at major aerospace conferences, virtual seminar series, and Web 2.0 technologies to facilitate interaction between all students, their university advisors and NASA/R&D lab mentors. We are planning to organize fellows by technical themes, where each theme is expected to touch multiple Centers and/or labs. We will also enlist your help in making it possible for a Ph.D. student to participate in his/her multiple on-Center/R&D lab research experiences at different Centers/labs (if desired by the student).

We are very excited about this new activity and look forward to building a successful fellowship program with you.



Dr. Robert D. Braun

Enclosure

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